MARGARET COMICS
別冊マーガレット

青春オロカ

MORIKO OTANI PRESENTS
YOUTH WALKER

大谷紀子

♣Contents♣

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HEY! YA SHRIMP!

YA WANNA START A FIGHT WITH ME OR SOME-THING?!

NO, I DON'T.

I WAS ONLY THINKING HOW TOUGH IT IS FOR THE PEOPLE HERE TO PUT UP WITH TROUBLE-MAKERS LIKE YOU HANGING AROUND.

WHAT?!

YA JUST GLARED AT ME RIGHT NOW, DIDN'T YA, YA LITTLE FUCKER?!

HUH? NONE IN PARTICU-LAR.

YA HAVE A PROBLEM WITH ME OR WHAT?! HUH?!

I'M ONLY HERE TO BUY SOME ICE CREAM.

SPLAT

青春(せいしゅん)ウオーカー

NORIHO OTSUKI
PRESENTS
YOUTH WALKER

I'LL SHUT THAT TRAP FOR LIFE!

ROOARR

HUH, EVEN IF I WERE, I DOUBT YOU'D BE ABLE TO GRANT IT.

...YA SHRIMP; YOU'RE ASKING FOR A DEATH WISH, THAT'S WHAT YOU ARE.

I'D LIKE TO SEE YOU TRY!

STOP IT.

MA...

MASHIMA...

LIFTS

!?

WHY DID YOU STOP US?!

We're just setting to the good part, too!

JUST BE QUIET FOR ONCE. LET'S GO.

STALKS OFF

WHAT ARE YOU DOING?! LET ME DOWN!!!

HEY! WAIT!

Hello?

ERR... N-NEVER MIND...

HE'S FRIGGIN' HUGE.

.....

YES?

THIS GUY RIGHT HERE

UM, EXCUSE ME.

THUD THUD THUD

Ditto that...

Yeah

We better not hang around here anymore

NO.

I won't

HIS NAME'S MASHIMA WATARU (16)

IS A GIANT WHO I CONSIDER MORE TO BE LIKE A SISTER TO ME.

UM....OKAY, OKAY, I GOT YOUR POINT. I THINK YOU CAN LET ME DOWN NOW.

EVEN THOUGH THAT'S THE CASE,

SHUT UP! WHAT'RE YOU BITCHING FOR? LET ME DOWN ALREADY-

I'M NOT.

..IT'S JUST THAT ICE CREAM ISN'T SOMETHING YOU RUB INTO A PERSON'S FACE. IT'S SOMETHING THAT YOU EAT.

HE'S BEEN MY, AOKI OUKA'S, BUDDY FOR A PRETTY LONG TIME...

WHAT ARE YOU SO WORKED UP OVER?

THUD

WHEN ARE YOU GOING TO REALIZE THAT?

I SAID THAT FOR YOUR SAKE.

!

YOU'RE A GIRL.

YOU SHOULDN'T GO LOOKING FOR TROU-

LATELY.

TOO SLOW!

HE'S BEEN ON MY CASE ABOUT THIS AND THAT.

PUNCH!

IS TO "BE MYSELF," NOT "BE LIKE A GIRL"

AND FOR YOUR INFORMATION, MY MOTTO IN LIFE

YA LITTLE... WHY DID YOU DO THAT?

chuckle

IF YOU JUST KEPT YOUR TRAP SHUT I WOULDN'T HAVE TO DO THAT

HUH?

swish

NO NEED FOR THAT.

IF YOU HAVE THE TIME TO GO AROUND BITCHING ABOUT HOW PEOPLE SHOULD LIVE THEIR LIVES, WHY DON'T YOU GO AND TRAIN THAT WEAK STOMACH OF YOURS.

...WHAT?! YOU'RE PICKING ME UP AGAIN?!

I HAVE ENOUGH STRENGTH TO CARRY YOU AROUND THE WHOLE CITY.

2-3

MASHIMA, THAT DOUCHE BAG!

WHY COULDN'T IT BE JUST HIS HEIGHT THAT'S GOTTEN GIGANTIC AND NOT HIS ATTITUDE, TOO?

IT'S KINDA GETTING ANNOYING, TO TELL YOU THE TRUTH.

THIS HAS BECOME PRACTICALLY AN EVERY-DAY AFFAIR.

DAMMIT!

HEY, WHAT'S WRONG WITH BEING SHORT? IT'S CUTE,

It's a complex of hers

AND IT MAKES YOU WANT TO PROTECT THE GIRL AND ALL...

HEY! DON'T TRICK ME INTO SAYING IT!

148.1 cm

193.8 cm

AND WHAT ABOUT YOU?

HOW TALL'S MARCY ANYWAY?

Aka Mashima

Laughs through her nose

huh

NO DUH.

I'D RATHER DIE THAN HAVE TO HAVE SOMEONE CONSTANTLY "PROTECTING" ME.

I hate owing anyone anything!

...OR NOT.

AND THANKS TO SOMEONE, I WAS ABLE TO BECOME A FULL-FLEDGED ADULT MALE.

HELL YEAH, THANKS TO-

...AND ANYWAY,

WAY BACK MASHIMA USED TO BE ALL SMALL AND GIRLY, YOU KNOW.

sucks

?!

YOU STILL HAVEN'T GOTTEN OVER THAT HABIT OF BITING DOWN ON YOUR STRAW?

HMM? NO, NOT REALLY.

WHAT'S THAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN? ARE YOU TRYING TO START A FIGHT WITH ME OR SOMETHING?

WHAT?! YOU CAN'T HAVE ANY OF MY MILK!!

WHO SAID I WANTED ANY?

IF YOU THINK ABOUT IT, IT'S GONNA BE MORE TROUBLE THAN IT'S WORTH FOR ME TO GROW ANY TALLER.

Swish

I TOLD YOU, I'M NOT TRYING TO START A FIGHT WITH YOU.

What's wrong with me going through the window?

HEY, GET BACK HERE!! IF THAT AIN'T A SIGNAL TO FIGHT, THEN I DON'T KNOW WHAT IT IS!!

MARCY, THAT'S AMAZING! I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU CAN GO IN AND OUT OF THE WINDOW SO EASILY!

Ducks

!?

NOW IF YOU'LL EXCUSE ME.

He has a point

Hey I did it! Wanna see?

Hey did you do the English homework?

Do I look like someone who'd do it? Nooh

UGH WHERE'S THE CUTE GIRLY-GUY I KNEW WAY BACK WHEN

HE'S NOT BEING CUTE AT ALL!!

WHAT'S WITH THE CHANGE ANYWAY? HE DIDN'T USE TO BE SO UPPITY,

AND HE DIDN'T USE TO BE THAT GIGANTIC EITHER

DAMMIT.

OH, AND BY THE WAY,

MY HEIGHT REACHED ITS MAX WHEN I WAS IN GRADE 4.

slurrrp

NOT ONLY THAT BUT SINCE HE HAD THE LABEL "TRANSFER STUDENT,"

HE GOT BULLIED BY THE OTHER GUYS IN THE CLASS.

Hess up you're really a girl, aren't you?

You're a friggin joke!

THAT WAS WHEN

"SHORT, DELICATE, PALE, AND TIMID"

THAT WAS MY FIRST IMPRESSION OF HIM.

THAT WAS AROUND THE TIME MASHIMA TRANSFERRED TO MY SCHOOL

I HATE CROOKED, DISHONEST STUFF LIKE THIS!!

SCREAMSOW

Do you want me to shave your head bald, is that what you want HUH?!

dumb-struck

...THAT'S RIGHT, I HAVE CURLY HAIR.

SNAP

Don't try to stop us!

WHAT, YA TRYING TO START SOMETHING WITH US, CURLY?!

Yeah!

Yeah!

Forbidden word

BECAUSE I HAVE A HAIR THAT'S A LITTLE CURLIER THAN YOUR AVERAGE PERSON. .

C'MON GUYS, STOP IT.

I STEPPED IN TO SAVE HIM

AND HE STOPPED CRYING.

AND HE STOPPED BEING BULLIED.

SO WE BECAME FRIENDS.

AFTER THAT, MASHIMA STARTED TO STICK AROUND ME WHEREVER I WENT"

AND NOW, HE'S-

OUKA...

JUST TO LET YOU KNOW, THAT MAKES NO SENSE.

ALWAYS, TALKING DOWN TO ME FROM A HIGHER PLACE

Spurts.

That's disgusting.

SHUT UP! I'M DOING IT ON PURPOSE!

blinks

YOU'RE DROOLING MILK.

WELL, THEN GO SLEEP ON YOUR DESK!

AND MY CHARACTER.

IS MY HEIGHT

... SCREW THAT.

I'M SLEEPY, SO DON'T TRY TALKING TO ME.

HEY! YOU'RE IN THE WAY.

THE ONLY THING THAT HASN'T CHANGED FROM THE OLDEN DAYS,

Clatter

YAWWWNN

I FEEL MOST COMFORTABLE HERE.

AND...

THE FACT THAT HE'S STILL BY MY SIDE.

WHAT'S WITH HIM AND HIS "YOU'RE A GIRL" SHIT ANYWAY?

WHAT ARE YOU, MY CARE-TAKER?

HAH!

WELL, WHO'S THE ONE NOT MAKING SENSE?

UM...

IS IT TRUE THAT YOU AND MASHIMA-SENPAI ARE GOING OUT?!

I'VE GOTTEN SICK AND TIRED OF YOU TELLING ME THAT.

THEY'RE SO TALL! AND SO THIN! AND SO PRETTY! ARE THEY MODELS OR WHAT?

REALLY?!

...ERR, NO?

TO TELL YOU THE TRUTH, HE'S NEVER EVEN HAD A GIRLFRIEND, REALLY.

...I'VE ALSO GOTTEN SICK OF BEING ASKED THIS QUESTION.

No way!

HUH, I GUESS YOU COULD SAY THAT,

BUT HE'S MORE OF MY SIDEKICK THAN ANY-THING.

SO YOU TWO ARE JUST FRIENDS?

WE... REALLY ADMIRE HIM...

AND WE'RE REALLY ENVIOUS OF YOU, TO BE HONEST.

KYAAAA!

Mashima -senpai?!

No way

SQUEEZE

WHO'S YOUR SIDEKICK?

Huh?

ARE YOU GUYS IN GRADE 10? DID YOU HAVE SOMETHING TO SEE HER FOR?

NO MATTER HOW YOU LOOK AT IT, THEY'RE HERE TO ASK ME ABOUT YOU

OH, NOT REALLY, IT'S JUST...

W-WE'RE BIG FANS OF YOURS!

YEAH, WE THINK YOU'RE SO COOL AND...

WE'LL ALWAYS BE WATCHING YOU FROM AFAR!

RICA

WHOA!

YOU FIGURE IT OUT!! DON'T ASK ME!

COULD HE BE ANY DENSER?

WHAT'S THAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN?

IF I WERE A GUY, I'D WANT TO DATE GIRLS LIKE THEM!

They smelled really good too!

HOW WERE THEY TO YOU?

THEY WERE CUTE, WEREN'T THEY? THEY WERE GIRLY, DELICATE, PRETTY AND ALL SPARKLY, WEREN'T THEY?

YOU SHOULD START THINKING ABOUT STUFF ON YOUR OWN.

I DID AND I STILL DON'T GET IT. THAT'S WHY I'M ASKING YOU?!

GIRLS DON'T USUALLY KICK GUYS IN THE ASS, YOU KNOW?!

HEYYY! ONE OF YOU TWO THERE-

THAT'S WHY I SAID "IF"!

WHAT'S THAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN? YOU'RE NOT A GUY.

WELL, THERE'S ONLY ONE WAY TO DECIDE FAIR AND SQUARE...

...SO, WHO'S IT GONNA BE?

COULD YOU BRING US A BRUSH RAKE FROM THE STORAGE?

COMIN' RIGHT UP!

SCISSORS!

SNAP SNAP

ROCK... PAPER....

YAY! I WIN!

rattle

Tok

AND LOOK THIS-

WAY!!!

The way they decide things: Acchi-mu'te-hoi [Look Th's way]

AND NOT ONLY THAT, BUT I'VE NEVER ONCE LOST AGAINST HIM IN THE SECOND ROUND. ACCHI-MUITE-HOI!

chuckles

mumble

HE ALWAYS ATTACKS WITH SCISSORS, SO IT'S EASY AS PIE

PUI!

I SAID THAT IT'S HEAVY!

HEY.

THIS IS THE PART THAT HASN'T CHANGED-

IT'S MORE FUN TO JOKE AROUND LIKE THIS.

AND FOR ME

JUST TO LET YOU KNOW, BEING GIRLY IS A NO-GO FOR ME.

NO MATTER HOW YOU LOOK AT THINGS, I'LL NEVER BE LIKE THOSE GIRLS-

I DIDN'T MEAN IT LIKE THAT.

HEY! WHAT'D YOU DO THAT FOR?!

ｼﾞｰ

Roll

!?

Here's the brush, rake-

Thanks

WHO KNOWS? YOU TRY THINKING ABOUT IT.

THEN WHAT-

WHAT'S YOUR PROBLEM, MASHIMA ?!

GRRR ...

Are you guys doing long-jump today?

ｼﾞｰ

pissed off

Rattle

Get me a cooler.

It's a freakin' oven today.

HUH, I DON'T GET HIM AT ALL.

Swish Swish

YO, MASHIMA. MORNING!

The next day

because of his height

The world he can see

TURNS

HMM? WHAT'S UP?

TURN

Oh baby~

OH I GET IT. YOU'VE FALLEN FOR MY DEVASTATING SEX APPEAL, HAVEN'T YOU?

NO. IT'S BECAUSE MY EYES WOULD'VE ROTTED IF I HADN'T TURNED AROUND.

Whoa!

leans in

YOU JUST GOT HERE AND YOU'RE ALREADY LEAVING?

'MORNING!

WHATEVER, JUST BUTTON UP YOUR BLOUSE, OKAY?

WHADDYA JUST SAY?!

'MOR-

SAKAKI.

SHOMI.

!!?

?

IF MY MEMORY SERVES ME RIGHT...

THESE TWO WERE SUPPOSED TO BE JUST FRIENDS...

CLATTER

WHAT?!?

YOU GUYS HAVE DECIDED TO START GOING OUT?!

2-3

SAKAKI, I DIDN'T KNOW YOU LIKE SHIOMI-SAN.

WHADDYA MEAN YOU JUST DECIDED ON IT?

I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT'S GOING ON IN THIS WORLD ANYMORE.

HUH? OH, NOT REALLY, NOT UNTIL JUST NOW.

THAT'S RIGHT!

WE JUST DECIDED ON IT. ♥

IT ONLY TAKES SOMETHING MINOR, YOU KNOW?

WHAT?! THEN WHY?!

YEAH, DITTO FOR ME. UP UNTIL NOW, I JUST SAW HIM AS ANOTHER CLASSMATE.

AND YOU REALIZE YOU HAVE STUFF IN COMMON.

WHILE YOU'RE WALKING,

AND YOU GET A CHANCE TO ACTUALLY TALK TO THAT PERSON

YOU RUN INTO SOMEONE OUT OF COINCIDENCE WHILE YOU'RE HEADING TO SCHOOL,

-AND SO, IT MADE ME THINK THAT HEY, MAYBE HE'S NOT SO BAD, YOU KNOW?

YEAH, PRETTY MUCH

TO LOVE, I MEAN

THAT IS WHAT ALL THERE IS TO IT

SO THAT MEANS THAT YOU NEED TO [illegible] RIGHT [illegible]

HEY! DO JOON PRETTY HAPPY

.....

CONGRATS!

THAT'S THE MOST IMPORTANT THING.

...YEAH,

WE'RE HAPPY FOR YOU.

That's right!

Heh, it's kinda embarrassing when you're telling that to our faces.

THANKS.

I DUNNO WHY, BUT I FEEL LIKE A MATCHMAKER OF SORTS.

AH YEAH, I HEAR YOU.

Same for me.

I NEVER THOUGHT THOSE TWO WOULD HOOK UP.

.....

Hehehe just you wait and see!

THEY'RE PROBABLY GONNA BE ALL LOVEY-DOVEY IN CLASS FROM NOW ON!

WHAT ABOUT YOU, OUKA? DON'T YOU HAVE THAT KIND OF SIDE TO YOU?

Sorry, stupid question

... PROBABLY NOT

RIGHT?

WELL WHAT DO YOU THINK? YOU SEE ME EVERY-DAY.

BUT YOU NEVER KNOW, YOU MIGHT END UP CHANGING ONCE YOU FALL FOR SOMEONE.

SMACK!

DON'T SAY IT LIKE YOU'RE PROUD OF THOSE THINGS

Heh

I PROBABLY WON'T CHANGE.

NOT MY FOUL MOUTH, NOT MY WAY OF WALKING, NOT MY SLEEPING HABITS. NOT A SINGLE BIT, NO SIREE!

OH, YOU'RE RIGHT.

That was fast

WELL, SEE YA

WELL THEN, I COULD SAY THE SAME THING FOR YOU-

THERE'S YOUR HOUSE.

HE COULD GET A GIRLFRIEND EASY IF HE
WHY DOESN'T HE?

WHAT ABOUT MASHIMA THEN,

WAIT!

GRABS

IS IT BECAUSE OF ME?!

I-IF YOU'VE BEEN HANGING OUT WITH ME LIKE THIS BECAUSE YOU'RE FEELING OBLIGATED BECAUSE OF THE PAST, THEN THERE'S NO NEED FOR THAT, YA KNOW?

YOU'RE FREE TO GO AND MAKE GIRLFRIENDS, SO DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME, OKAY?!

WHAT?

IS IT THAT-

I'M HOLDING YOU BACK...?

Wha...?

HUH?

WELL, YOU KNOW HOW I SAVED YOU WHEN YOU'RE GETTING BULLIED AFTER YOU TRANSFERRED OVER HERE, RIGHT?

SO I THOUGHT THAT YOU MIGHT BE FEELING LIKE YOU NEED TO STAY WITH ME 'CAUSE OF IT.

What do you mean "because of the past"

SORRY, I'M NOT GETTING THE PICTURE HERE.

-WELL THEN, MY MISTAKE

THEN JUST FORGET IT, SORRY I SAID ANY-

WHAT?! YOU'D COM-PLETELY FORGOT-TEN ABOUT IT?!

OH, RIGHT, YEAH, I'D COMPLETELY FORGOTTEN. OH YEAH, WOW, THAT WAS AGES AGO...

WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY "EMPTY"?! HUH?!

I WAS JUST-

YOU DON'T HAVE TO WRACK YOUR EMPTY LITTLE HEAD OVER STUPID STUFF LIKE THAT.

YOU'RE A GOOD FRIEND OF MINE,

HEH, WELL THAT'S GREAT THEN!

I'm relieved!

NOW,

AND IN THE PAST.

I'LL CELEBRATE WITH YA!

WHEN YOU GET A GIRL-FRIEND THOUGH, TELL ME RIGHT AWAY, GOT IT?

**It's a pop song by an artist named Mr. Moon, originally used in a commercial.

HMM... WELL, FOR START-ERS, I'LL SING "THE LADYBUG SAMBA"**

HUH, SO YOU'RE ALREADY GOING TO JUMP TO A WEDDING?

...HOW WOULD YOU CELE-BRATE?

.....

The next day

YEAH, WE CAN MAKE IT A 1 DAY-2 NIGHT DOUBLE DATE!

HEY, WHY DON'T WE GO CAMPING? THE FOUR OF US!

YEAH!

Anytime, Anywhere, Any place!

Explosion of the Overly Affectionate Stupid Couple

YEAH, TOTALLY! IF WE WANTED TO JUST BE LOVEY-DOVEY WE CAN DO THAT ANY-WHERE! ♥

WHAT'S WITH THESE TWO...?

WELL FOR CAMPING, THERE'S MORE FUN IN NUMBERS!

...HUH?

IF YOU WANT TO GO ON A DATE, WHY DON'T YOU TWO GO ALONE?

HEY MARCY, YOU'D BE UP FOR A CAMPING TRIP, WOULDN'T YOU?! RIGHT?!

Morning!

MORNING!

HUH, I DIDN'T KNOW YOU HAD THAT KIND OF THOUGHTFUL SIDE TO YOU.

WHADDYA JUST SAY?!

OKAY THEN, LOOKS LIKE WE HAVE A CAMPING DATE SET!

WHAT ABOUT YOU?

WELL, I WOULDN'T WANT TO GET IN THEIR WAY, YOU KNOW?

Okay?

Huh?

PHEW! WE FINALLY MADE IT!

NICE VIEW!

I'M STARVED!

Dashes!

HAVEN'T YOU EVER HEARD OF THE WORD "COOPERATION" BEFORE?

HE HE HE

WE CAN DO ALL THAT STUFF LATER! LET'S HAVE SOME FUN FIRST!

WELL, I GUESS WE SHOULD DECIDE ON WHO'LL SET UP CAMP AND WHO'LL MAKE SOME LUNCH

You know Get it all set

YEAH, GOOD IDEA.

AND LOOK THIS...

WAY!

SCIS-SORS!

She knew it

ROCK... PAPER...

HEY! GET BACK HERE!

Dashes! Away

Splash

Splash

OKAY, THEN IT'S SET! MASHIMA DOES EVERY-THING!

That's a fish!

There's something sparkly here!

HUH? OH, IT'S JUST SOME OLD RULE WE'VE HAD SINCE A LONG TIME AGO.

I NEVER KNEW

THAT WHEN YOU TWO WANT TO DECIDE ON SOMETHING, YOU USE "ACCHI-MUITE-HOI"

...I THINK IT'S JUST ABOUT READY.

YOU'RE RIGHT

YOU DETOUSHIN CONCERT!

YEAH, BUT I JUST KINDA REACT WITHOUT EVEN THINKING ABOUT IT WHEN SHE DOES IT, YOU KNOW?

You're right.

WELL, WHY DON'T YOU JUST USE ROCK-PAPER-SCISSORS?

It's just a matter of deciding the winner and loser?

!?

WHOAAAA! THAT'S COLD!

YOU SHOULD COOL OFF A BIT.

Look at me! I'm wet down to the bone!

BOOYA!

WELL THEN, WE BETTER CALL THE-

OH?

LOOKS LIKE SHE'S FALLEN ASLEEP.

MAYBE WE SHOULD CARRY HER OVER INTO THE TENT.

...

MARCY, SHE'S FALLEN ASLEEP.

AH, DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT, I'LL CARRY HER OVER.

SHE'S THE TYPE WHO CAN'T GET ANY SLEEP THE NIGHT BEFORE A FIELD TRIP, SO I'M NOT SUR-

[illegible]

YOU'RE REALLY HIGH-MAINTENANCE, YOU KNOW THAT?

"OUKA-CHAN, COULD YOU LOWER YOUR HEAD A LITTLE?"

HE ALWAYS HAD THIS WARM SCENT FROM THE VERY BEGIN-NING...

LIKE MASHIMA

...IT SMELLS

...

"MY BIG SISTER GAVE IT TO ME, BUT I THOUGHT IT'D SUIT YOU MORE."

"WHAT'S THIS?"

"IT'S A DUTCH CLOVER WREATH."

?

AND SINCE, IF YOU ASKED ANYONE, THEY'D TELL YOU I WAS MORE OF THE GUYISH CHARACTER.

SINCE HE REALLY DID LOOK LIKE A GIRL,

TO BE HONEST, I THOUGHT MASHIMA WOULD LOOK BETTER WITH IT.

I STILL DON'T KNOW WHETHER I ACTUALLY LOOKED ANY GOOD WITH THE DUTCH CLOVER WREATH ON MY HEAD

HUH? WHAT'S THAT?

WAS DREAMING ABOUT THE DUTCH CLOVER WREATH.

BECAUSE YOU SAID IT'D LOOK BETTER ON ME.

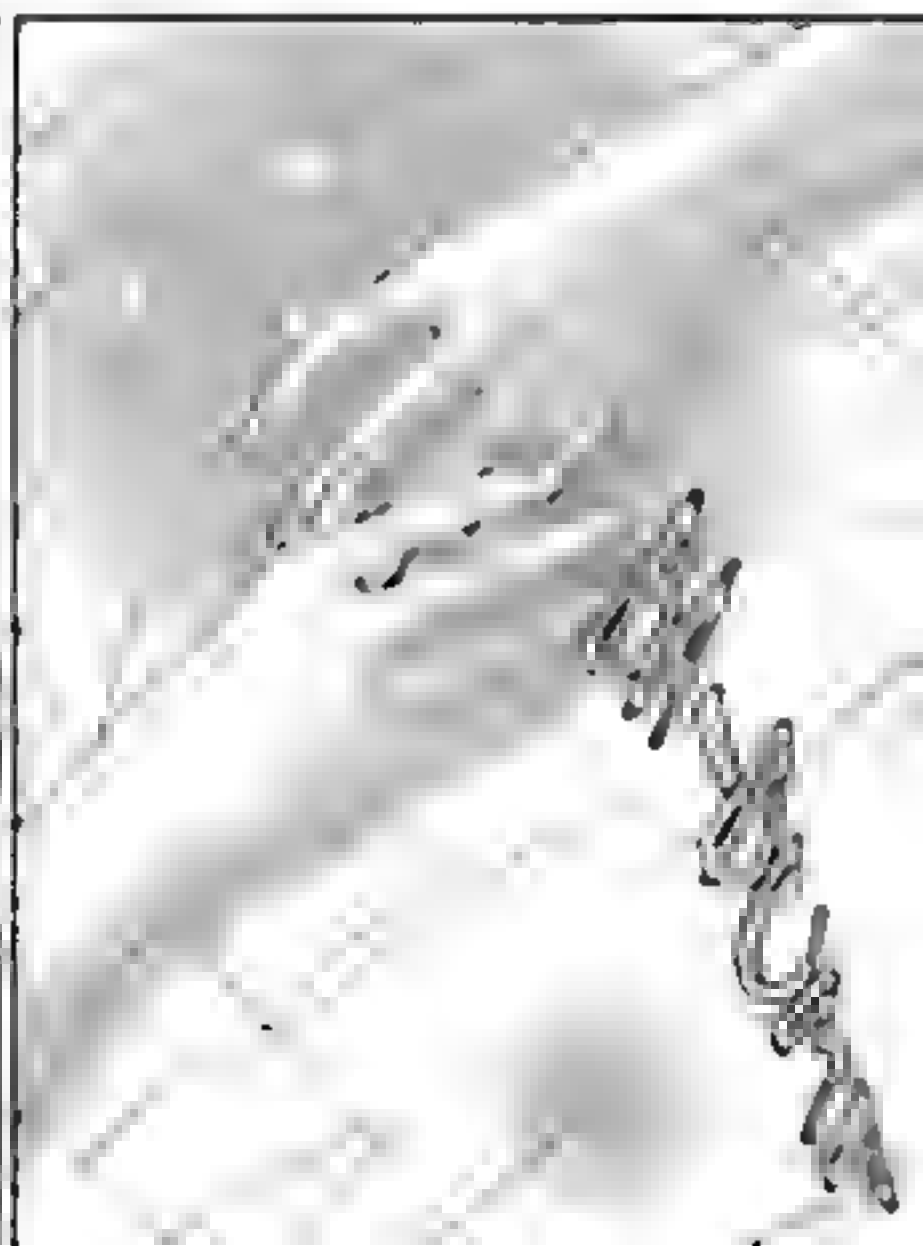
YOU KNOW, THE ONE YOU GAVE ME

BUT I NEVER GOT A CHANCE TO LOOK IN THE MIRROR, SO I DON'T REALLY KNOW

WHETHER I ACTUALLY LOOKED ANY GOOD WITH IT ON...

IT LOOKED GOOD ON YOU

WHY DO I'LL JUST AROUND REMEMBERING STUPID STUFF LIKE THAT ANYWAY?



WHAT...

...

IS THIS?

"IT LOOKED GOOD ON YOU"

I-

CAN'T FALL ASLEEP!

WHOA

WON'T GET OUT OF MY HEAD!!

THOSE WORDS THAT HE SAID TO ME.

WHO'S FAULT DO YOU THINK IT IS THAT I HAVEN'T GOTTEN A DECENT NIGHT'S REST IN 2-3 DAYS?

IT'S ALL YOUR FAULT.

...HUH? WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?

BLACK CLOUD HOVERING

WHAT'S WITH THAT FACE?

WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU?

Look at those bags under your eyes!

SHUT UP.

NO, NO. I MEAN, EVER SINCE WE WENT CAMPING.

HUH? BUT YOU'RE ALWAYS LIKE THAT.

SOMETHING STRANGE HAS BEEN GOING ON WITH ME LATELY.

OH, SORRY, BUT I'VE GOT SOME STUFF TO DO. LATER.

IT'S 'CAUSE YOU SAID STUFF LIKE HOW I LOOKED GOO-

What kind of reply's that?

.....

WHERE YOU GOING?

HUH? OH, I'LL PROBABLY BE RIGHT BACK.

WELL, IT'S NONE OF MY BUSINESS WHERE HE GOES.

...OR SO

SORRY TO KEEP YOU WAITING.

ba-dump ba-dump

WHAT AM I SO WORRIED ABOUT?

Stalks Off

IT'S SUPPOSED TO BE ANYWAY

Peeks

I REMEMBER HER!

...OH!

HMM...? WHO IS THAT GIRL HE'S TALKING TO?

UM... TO BE HONEST WITH YOU, I DON'T THINK YOU AND AOKI-SENPAI LOOK GOOD TOGETHER AT ALL!

SHE'S MASHIMA'S FAN-

...EXCUSE ME?

RIGHT DOES SHE HAVE TO TALK THAT KIND OF SHIT ABOUT ME?!

Grrr

THEN DO YOU WANT TO BE THE ONE BY MY SIDE?

A GIRL WHO'S PRETTY AND CUTE WITH GOOD MANNERS WOULD ME MORE FIT TO BE BY YOUR SIDE.

Squeeze

WHAT

SNAP

WHAT?!

JUST KIDDING.

SORRY, BUT YOU WON'T CUT IT.

I WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO FEEL COMFORT-ABLE AROUND YOU.

I'VE-

ALREADY FOUND A PLACE LIKE THAT IN SOMEBODY ELSE

"I FEEL MOST COMFORTABLE HERE."

Dashes away

Sigh

MASHIMA,

YOU MEAN...

THE PLACE WHERE YOU CAN FEEL MOST COMFORT-ABLE IS...

2-3

OUKA.

...HELLO? IS ANY-BODY HOME?

.....

MIND IF I STOP BY THE PHOTO SHOP TO PICK UP THE PHOTOS I DROPPED OFF YESTERDAY?

IT'LL ONLY TAKE A SECOND TO PICK IT UP.

WHA?

HOW AM I SUP-POSED TO ACT AROUND HIM NOW?!

W-

WHY DON'T YOU GO BY YOUR-SELF?

HEY, ISN'T YOUR FACE A LITTLE RED?

DON'T TOUCH ME!

SLAP

AH...

WHAT?

AM I SAYING ...

HEY?

WHAT ...

YOU'RE BETTER OFF HAVING A CUTE AND GIRLY GIRL BY YOUR SIDE.

YOU SHOULDN'T PAY ME ANY ATTENTION.

YOU HEARD WHAT THAT GIRL SAID, DIDN'T YOU?

DON'T TELL ME YOU WERE LISTENING IN...

-AND BESIDES,

I DON'T FEEL COMFORTABLE AT ALL WHEN I'M WITH YOU!

SO YOU...

[illegible]

.....

FINE THEN.

OH REALLY?

HAVE IT YOUR WAY. I'LL STOP HANGING OUT WITH YOU THEN.

...

AH

Dashes

MASHIMA!

.....

WHAT'S WITH HIM?

ALL I SAID WAS THE TRUTH.

.....?

"IT LOOKED GOOD ON YOU"

IT'S BECAUSE HE SAID SOMETHING WEIRD TO ME...

THAT MY FEELINGS ARE JUST ALL OVER THE PLACE.

I CAN'T SETTLE MYSELF DOWN

AND YOU'RE NOT HELPING EITHER, WITH YOU BEING A CLOSED BOOK AND ALL.

WHY DO I HAVE TO FEEL JEALOUS?

...

HEY, DID YOU TWO GET INTO A FIGHT OR SOMETHING?

THIS IS STARTING TO PISS ME OFF...

Haha

HUH? NOT REALLY.

YEAH, BUT YOU GUYS HAVEN'T TALKED IN THREE WHOLE DAYS.

DAMMIT!

SCRUNCH

AND WHEN HE'S NOT, IT'S NO DIFFERENT.

WHEN HE'S BY MY SIDE, MY FEELINGS ARE A MESS.

SLAM

I'M GOING HOME.

OUKA ...

She's out of control.

UGH....THIS IS PISSING ME OFF.

HE'S PISSING ME OFF.

Pit pat pit pat

WOW! HOW NOSTALGIC!

I CAN'T BELIEVE IT MANAGED TO GROW HERE. TALK ABOUT PERSEVERANCE! HOW CUTE!

DUTCH CLOVERS!

HEY, HEY, MASHIMA!

LOOK! DUTCH CLOV-

OH... RIGHT.

HE'S NOT HERE.

.....

HEY, HAVE YOU HEARD?

AM I AN IDIOT OR WHAT?

WHAT AM I DOING?

Oh, plus "a promise" and stuff like that

THE MEANING BEHIND THE DUTCH CLOVER IS

"PLEASE LOOK MY WAY"

PLEASE LOOK
MY WAY...

THAT'S WHY I ...

THE END

WHO SAID STUFF LIKE HOW

BUT HE'S THE ONE

WHAT'S WITH HIM ...

WE'RE GOOD FRIENDS AND ALL...

...HEY! YOU'RE THE CHICK FROM THE OTHER DAY!

HEY, WHAT'S YOUR PROB?

LOOKS LIKE YOUR SIDE-KICK'S NOT WITH YOU TODAY.

glances

DID YOU KNOW? THIS FLOWER MEANS "PLEASE LOOK MY WAY"

I'LL GET YOU BACK DOUBLE FOR THE OTHER DAY...

WHO THE HELL'S MASHIMA?

I'm Mayama.

I HAD NO IDEA.

...HUH?!

What the hell're you talking about?!

DID MASHIMA KNOW THAT?

SHE'S JUST MUMBLING TO HERSELF.

SHE'S GOTTEN ME OUT

WHAT'S WRONG WITH HER?

THAT NEVER CROSSED MY MIND.

IT WAS PROBABLY BECAUSE THOSE THINGS WERE HAPPENING ALL AROUND ME...

AND TO BE HONEST, I NEVER HAD ANY INTEREST IN STUFF LIKE THAT EITHER

THAT I NEVER STOPPED TO CONSIDER IT...

WHAT AM I, A BIG MORON?

BUT THE TRUTH IS...I NEVER WANTED HIM TO STOP BEING BY MY SIDE.

WHAT'S THE POINT IN REALIZING THIS, NOW THAT HE'S GONE...?

YOU REALLY ARE HIGH-MAINTENANCE, YOU KNOW THAT?

MASHIMA

IT TOOK YOU LONG ENOUGH.

MASHIMA

AND BY THE WAY, SHE'S WITH ME SO DON'T GO PICKING ON HER, ALL RIGHT?

WHY?

WHY DID YOU COME BACK?

AND WHY ARE YOU CARRYING ME AGAIN?

WHO KNOWS?

YEAH WELL, LOOKS LIKE IT'S BUILT INTO MY SYSTEM TO STICK BY YOU.

!

YOU WEREN'T

THUD

...AND I WAS REALLY LONELY.

SWISH

YOU FINALLY REALIZED IT?

I CARE ABOUT HIM.

YEAH ...

I DID.

NOT ENOUGH ...

What?!

WELL SCREW THAT!

I DON'T EVEN REMEMBER HOW TO MAKE 'EM ANYMORE!

THEN I DON'T NEED A WREATH; JUST GET ME LOTS, WON'T YOU?

turns away

ONE'S NOT ENOUGH.

I WANT A WREATH, JUST LIKE BEFORE.

You ruined a perfectly good mood just now, you know that?!

ROCK...
PAPER...

WELL THEN, WHY DON'T WE DECIDE WITH "ACCHI-MUITE-HOI," LIKE ALWAYS? THE LOSER HAS TO GO BACK THERE AND GATHER THE DUTCH CLOVERS!

SCISSORS!

AND LOOK THIS-

WHAT ?!

I LOST ...?

WAT-

!!?

But it looks like you're the loser this time around.

SORRY TO DISAPPOINT YOU.

AND BESIDES,

THUD

THUD

WHAT'D YOU DO THAT FOR?!

I....

YOU ...

DON'T YOU THINK SO?

IN A SITUATION LIKE THIS, SHOULDN'T WE BOTH GO BACK TO PICK THEM?

NOW,

AND IN THE FUTURE,

THE PLACE BESIDE YOU

IS WHERE I FEEL MOST AT HOME.

THE END

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Story 1

Seishun Walker

1 - 3
WELL,
AND I'LL BE YOUR TEACHER FOR THIS CLASS.
MY NAME IS OUMI KOUTARO

LET'S MAKE THIS THE BEST YEAR.
IT'S GREAT TO MEET YOU ALL!

I JUST GRADUATED FROM UNIVERSITY THIS YEAR, SO I'M JUST NEW HERE LIKE THE REST OF YOU.

BRILLIANT
BLUE

Do you have a girlfriend?

How tall are you?

Would you mind explaining this part

You don't get it?

AREN'T YOU GOING TO JOIN THEM, YONEHARA-SAN?

...OH, RIGHT,

YOU HAVE A BOYFRIEND.

OH, LOOKS LIKE OUR LATEST TEACHER'S

THE LIFE OF THE PARTY

When are you guys going to go home?

Hehe

HEH, YEAH.

SLAM

MR. OLIM!

I FIN-ISHED

WRITING DOWN THE DAILY LOG.

INSTEAD OF TURNING TO A MUSH JUST 'CAUSE YOU GOT SOME GIRLS WHO PAY ATTENTION TO YOU?

SHOULDN'T YOU THINK ABOUT GOING HOME, TOO

H-HUH? OH, THANKS YOU CAN GO HOME NOW

...?

HE'S LATE!

!

Noooooo...

IT'S ME.

SLAP

DON'T SCARE ME LIKE THAT!

YOU SICK PERV!

YOU'RE THE ONE WHO ASKED ME TO COME IN DISGUISE!

WELL, DUH,

....

D-

SINCE WE DID BECOME TEACHER AND STUDENT, AFTER ALL.

Oumi Koutarou. 23 years old. New teacher.

Yonehara Mizuho. 16 years old. Grade 10

we're in other words, boyfriend-and-girlfriend

It's been a month since we started going out,

and so from this spring, we ended up with the new title of "teacher and student"

SIGH

HEY! WHY DO YOU HAVE TO PUT IT LIKE THAT?

WHY DID YOU HAVE TO TRANSFER TO MY SCHOOL OF ALL PLACES ANYWAY?

OH, AND DON'T ACT GOOFY JUST 'CAUSE SOME OF THE GIRLS IN MY CLASS PAID ATTENTION TO YOU.

YEAH! I'LL MAKE SURE THAT OUR RELATIONSHIP DOESN'T GET OUT TO ANYONE!

RIGHT-O!

Wait I never agreed to that

...SO THAT "FATE" OF YOURS ISN'T PUT INTO JEOPARDY, PUT THAT DISGUISE OF YOURS BACK ON.

Sobs

YOU'RE SUCH A MEANIE AND HERE I WAS THINKING THAT IT WAS FATE

UH S-SURE

This is embarrassing and cute

Rub Rub Rub

LET'S MAKE THE MOST OF THIS SITUATION.

Yeah!

We first met a year ago

It all began when he came to be my tutor.

I was in grade 9, and he was in his last year of university.

His reply

"Let's go out if we both pass the exams that we're studying for."

He passed his teacher's exam first, and we celebrated.

It was love at first sight for me, and although I figured he'd turn me down, I confessed my feelings for him.

After that, I passed the entrance exam for the school I'm going to now, and so from this spring, we started going out.

But I never thought he'd come to teach at my school.

and roles in life

GOOD MORNING!

Stuff like our age difference

'MORNING'

don't matter

I truly believe that

When I'm with him

...

They're so lucky

I'D BE LYING THOUGH IF I SAID I D.DN'T FEEL A B.T JEALOUS

but I AM able to see him inside and outside of school

We can't act like that around others,

...but, that's right,

as long as you care for the other person, then you can overcome any obstacle

I LIKE YOU.

I SAID I LIKE YOU.

...
EXCUSE ME?

DON'T TELL ME YOU'RE GONNA SHOOT ME DOWN, YA HEAR?

WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY...

...SORRY

I SAID IT FOR YA FIRST.

Ya should be grateful.

Um...oh right. he's Kanbara Shigeru, a guy in the same class as me...

YO, WAIT.

IS HE THAT MUCH BETTER THAN ME?

OBVIOUSLY.

BUT I ALREADY HAVE A BOYFRIEND

SINCE HE'S THE TEACHER

AND ANYWAY YOU HAVE BEEN SEEING HIM EVERY-DAY.

EXCUSE ME? WHY DO I HAVE TO INTRODUCE YOU TO HIM?

WELL THEN, LET ME SEE HIM.

YEAH WELL, THAT'S NOT MY PROBLEM. DO WHAT YOU WANT

UNTIL YOU LET ME MEET HIM, I'M NOT GONNA GIVE UP!

IF I SEE THAT HE'S A BETTER GUY THAN ME, THEN I'LL GIVE UP.

A GUY TOLD ME THAT HE LIKED ME TODAY.

.....

HUH? NO WAY!

W-WHAT DO YOU MEAN

WAS I SO DRUNK?

Today's disguise
Ala straight-laced businessman

WHAT DO I WANT TO DO...? DON'T TELL ME YOU AGREED...?

HE TOLD ME TO INTRODUCE YOU TO HIM.

WHAT DO YOU WANT TO DO?

SPURT

I WOULD NEVER DO ANYTHING TO CAUSE YOU TROUBLE.

I'LL DO EVERYTHING TO PROTECT YOUR JOB.

I KNOW MORE THAN ANYONE HOW HARD YOU WORKED TO BECOME A TEACHER.

OH IF ONLY I COULD PUT ON YOUR RING FINGER A RING THAT COSTS THREE MONTHS WORTH OF SALARY.

BUT I JUST STARTED.

What are you suddenly bringing that up for?

...IF ONLY YOU COULD GRADUATE HIGH SCHOOL ALREADY, WE COULD GET MARRIED...

WELL THEN, I GUESS YOU'LL HAVE TO WORK YOUR BUTT OFF.

My Own

Yeah!

THAT'S RIGHT, I'M GONNA HAVE TO PUT MY BLOOD, SWEAT, AND TEARS INTO IT!

BUT THESE THREE YEARS WILL PROBABLY GO BY IN A FLASH.

IF ONLY THE DAY WHEN WE CAN JUST BE OPEN ABOUT OUR RELATIONSHIP COULD COME FASTER...

Our relationship might not be one that we can tell others about.

but I'm just happy now knowing that he cares for me as much as I do for him.

That's all I need.

WHEN'RE YOU GOING TO INTRODUCE ME TO THAT BOY-FRIEND OF YOURS?

Yooo

DIDN'T YOU HEAR ME WHEN I TOLD YOU THAT THERE'S NO REASON FOR ME TO INTRODUCE YOU TO HIM?

Hey, Tachi!

IF YOU ONLY LET ME MEET HIM, I'D STOP BOTHERING YA LIKE THIS.

But still,

There's this burden on my shoulder.

UGH, GO GET A LIFE!

WHAT IF KOUTAROU SEES THIS, HUH?!

I MADE IT CLEAR TO YOU YESTERDAY THAT I'M NOT INTERESTED, DIDN'T I?!

YOU'RE THE ONE WHO SAID "DO WHAT YOU WANT"!

And will you stop sticking so close to me?!

That's why I'm doing what I want!

Kyaa

THAT'S NONE OF YOUR BUSI-

A PRESENT FROM YOUR BOY-FRIEND?
!

I'LL TAKE THAT RING OFF YOUR FINGER RIGHT N-

!

YONEHARA.
Kousaku

...
Huh?

IF IT'S SOMETHING THAT'S PRECIOUS TO YOU, YOU SHOULDN'T BE GOING AROUND WEARING THAT TO SCHOOL..

WEARING IT TO SCHOOL **BECAUSE** IT'S PRECIOUS TO ME.

GOT IT?

What is he saying?!

He's the one who has the matching pair!

(even though he doesn't wear it at school)

I'M

...

IS THAT RIGHT? IF IT'S THAT PRECIOUS TO YOU, THEN THAT'S OKAY.

OUMI, YOU SHOULD CONFIS-CATE IT.

BUT IT'S AGAINST SCHOOL RULES TO BRING THAT KIND OF STUFF TO SCHOOL.

flicker

ding

so what? Your ear stud's okay?

WELL, IT'S BECAUSE I CAN UNDERSTAND A BIT WHERE SHE'S COMING FROM.

HUH?

BE CAREFUL NOT TO LOSE IT.

YEAH.

WHAT?! WHAT'RE YOU GIVING INTO HER FOR?!

screech

WHY DO I HAVE TO BE TOLD THAT BY SOMEONE LIKE YOU?!

YOU SHOULD LOOK FOR SOMEONE WHO YOU'LL FIND JUST AS PRECIOUS, TOO.

Pats

KANBARA.

ERR... OKAY... SURE.

AT ANY RATE! I DECIDED I'M GOING TO MAKE HER MINE, AND I'M NOT BACKING DOWN!

I'M NOT BACKING DOWN ON MY WORD NOW!

ARE YOU OUT OF YOUR MIND?! HE COULD END UP CAUSING A LOT OF TROUBLE FOR YOU, YOU KNOW!

I DON'T KNOW, BUT WHEN SOMEONE COMES AT YOU FULL ON LIKE THAT, IT'S KIND OF REFRESHING.

dumbstruck

....

JUST GO AND TELL YOUR BOY-FRIEND THAT!

Hah!

Rustle

!

...?

Flip

DOES HE REALLY GET THE PICTURE HERE?

THAT GUY JUST DECLARED WAR ON YOU

He→

Geez

...

I Love You

Kanbara

Shudder

A Flying Kiss

Stalks off

Bullet-Stare

leave you th...

DID YOU GUYS START GOING OUT OR SOME-THING?

NO!

SINGO!

I'M JUST NOW

I DON'T SEE HIM AT ALL

YOU LOOK EXHAUSTED.

YOU KNOW, LIKE "STOP MESSING WITH MY GIRL" OR SOMETHING?

WHY DON'T YOU SAY SOMETHING TO HIM, TOO,

DEAD TIRED

Here's some coffee

Ah, thanks

UGHHH, CAN'T SOMEONE JUST KILL HIM OFF ALREADY.

That'd be like admitting we're going out

...RIGHT, YEAH, THERE'S NO WAY YOU COULD SAY THAT...

Sigh

YOU KNOW, IT'S ALSO HARD FOR ME, HAVING TO JUST STAND BACK AND NOT SAY ANY-THING.

WHY DON'T YOU JUST TRY IGNOR-ING HIM?

IT'S EASIER SAID THAN DONE. I'VE BEEN TRYING THAT FOR THE PAST FEW WEEKS BUT IT'S BEEN A NO-GO.

YOU'LL JUST HAVE TO SUCK IT UP.

Thump

He's holding himself back for our relationship's sake, too.

I'M SORRY I BROUGHT IT UP.

...YEAH, I KNOW.

YEAH, HE'S RIGHT

OKAY?

HEY, WHY ARE YOU WEARING YOUR RING TODAY?

DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT.

HUH...? OH, REALLY?

You have a really good memory. Hahaha

DON'T TELL ME YOU'VE FORGOT-TEN?

IT'S 'CAUSE TODAY'S THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE DAY WE FIRST MET.

The exact day one year ago

!!

A face that would piss anybody off

STICKS TONGUE OUT

JUST KIDDING!

TURN

SNAP

What ?!

CLATTER

JUST FORGET IT THEN.

!!

Hey, wait, is he mad?

KOUTA-ROU!

THUD THUD THUD THUD THUD

WHO'RE YOU CALLING A BRAT?!

What's with that reaction?!

YOU SHOULD'VE PUT MORE HEART INTO IT! YOU KNOW, MAKE IT CUTER!

SHUT UP! WELL THEN, I REALLY WILL JUST LEAVE!

HEY, WAIT! I SAID IT WAS A JOKE.

I'M ☆LEAVING!

I can't believe you're 23!

JUST KIDDING!

WHAT ARE YOU, A BRAT?

TURN

what a strange couple

I WAS PLANNING TO GO FOR A BIT OF A DRIVE TODAY, SO STAY.

You know, as a date

YEAH, THAT MAKES SENSE.

I hear ya

HA HA HA

Grins

'CAUSE IT'D SUCK TO PUT ON A DISGUISE ON THIS DAY.

RATTLE

YEAH, SOUNDS GREAT. SEE YOU LATER.

HOW DOES 7 SOUND?

WH-

OH, IF YOU'RE LOOKING FOR MR. OUMI, HE'S PROBA-BLY AROUND HERE SOME-WHERE

Hanaha

DON'T TELL ME HE OVERHEARD US TALKING JUST NOW ?

CLICK

WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?

You know, in a place like this.

ME? I HAD SOME HOME-WORK TO FINISH UP THAT I WAS PLAN-NING TO HAND IN TO OUMI.

WELL, SEE YA LATER, ALLIGA-TORRR.

DASH

RATTLE

POPS OUT

OH, KANBARA. YOU'RE FINISHED WITH YOUR HOMEWORK?

SEE YA LATER, ALLGA-

WHAT'S TOR?

I KNEW YOU WERE CAPABLE OF DOING IT IF YOU TRIED!

HERE.

I'M PROUD OF YA.

WELL, DON'T STAY OUT TOO LATE! YOU BETTER GET HOME!

HE'S WEARING THE SAME RING AS HER...

...

"HOW DOES 7 SOUND?"

DON'T TELL ME THEY'RE...

WOWWW! THIS IS SO PRETTY!

OH, BUT LIFE DOESN'T GET ANY BETTER THAN THIS! WE ATE AN AWESOME MEAL,

I'LL BE COUNTING ON YOU IN THE FUTURE TO BE THERE, TOO.

...

Ah

I'm the happiest person out of everyone in this world.

I have nothing to be afraid of.

we could stay like this forever.

If only

THAT WAS AN AWESOME NIGHT YES-TERDAY

IF ONLY I COULD SEE KOUTA-ROU AGA.N SOON!

WHAT'S WITH THAT STUPID FACE?

I-IT'S NONE OF YOUR BU-

HEY THERE NOW,

THOUGH I WONDER IF THAT'S REALLY THE CASE.

GEEZ, WHEN ARE YOU GOING TO GET THE —

YOUR BOY-FRIEND

IS OUMI, ISN'T IT?

WHERE'D YOU GET THAT?!

GIVE IT TO ME!

HEY NOW, I'M THE ONE WHO TOOK IT.

SMIRKS

HUH,

WH—

OH HOW SAD, I'M SURE HE'LL GET FIRED BEFORE THE DAY'S UP.

I WONDER WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF WORD GETS OUT ABOUT YOUR RELA-TIONSHIP?

PLEASE

DON'T TELL ANYONE!

THEN—

NO

BREAK UP WITH HIM AND START GOING OUT WITH ME.

figure out a way to escape this [illegible]

I can't

APRIL, I
BE TEAC

I know how hard he worked for to become a teacher

I know

I know how ecstatic he was when that dream came true

I know

more than anyone...

Looks Around

... DATE.

IDIOT! DON'T CALL ME BY MY FIRST NAME IN THE SCHOOL HALL!

Sorry, didn't catch that

HUH? WHAT DID YOU JUST SAY?

KOUTAROU

That's why...

I won't let anyone come between you and your dream

MR. OUMI,

WILL YOU GO ON A DATE WITH ME?

DOG.

TIRED?

OR

OR

AHAHAHA! THIS MOVIE'S HILARI-OUS!

HEH? YOU THINK SO TOO, MIZUHO...

WHY ARE YOU CRYING WHEN THIS IS A COMEDY?!

Because I'll just

I don't need stuff like that.

way of what I need to do

WASN'T IT HILARIOUS WHEN THE MAIN CHARACTER FELL INTO THE HOLE AND CONFESSED HER LOVE TO THE GUY

BY SAYING SHE "FELL IN LOVE" WITH HIM BUT HE MISHEARD IT AS "HOLE IN ONE"??

because this will be our last night together.

AHAHAHA, I [illegible] HURTS!

HEY, YOU'RE LOOKING LIKE SADAKO RIGHT NOW WITH YOUR HAIR ON YOUR FACE LIKE THAT

[illegible]

LET'S BREAK UP.

...
WHAT?

WELL, I'M SURE YOU'LL HAVE NO TROUBLE FINDING ANOTHER GIRL ANYWAY, SO-

I'M TIRED OF HAVING TO KEEP OUR RELATIONSHIP A SECRET.

WHAT'S WITH YOU TODAY? YOU'RE NOT ACTING LIKE YOUR USUAL SELF

TO BE HONEST WITH YOU, I'M JUST SICK AND TIRED OF HAVING TO DEAL WITH THIS

I CAN'T EVEN TALK TO MY FRIENDS ABOUT US!

CLATTER

GRABS

SERIOUS.

CLICK

I love you,
Koutarou

more than
anyone else in
this world.

There's no
way

my feelings
for you could
change

I'm sorry for lying.

KOUTA-ROU

I'm sorry for hurting you.

I'm sorry, Koutarou.

MORNING

All this means

is that we've just become "teacher and student"

That's all there is to it.

DID YOU BREAK THINGS OFF WITH HIM?

WELL, LOOKING AT YOUR FACE, IT'S PRETTY OBVIOUS THAT YOU DID.

GOOD.

CLATTER

I BROKE UP WITH KOUTAROU.

YOU'RE GOING OUT WITH ME FROM NO-

HEY! WHERE DO YOU THINK YOU'RE GOING?!

BUT I HAVE NO PLANS ON GOING OUT WITH YOU.

I can never care about someone as much as I have for Koutarou.

I just know it.

so I don't care if I have to live the rest of my life keeping these feelings bottled up inside.

THERE'S NOT EVEN A CRACK OF A SPACE IN MY HEART THAT YOU CAN WRESTLE YOUR WAY INTO.

EVEN IF I'VE ENDED THINGS WITH HIM, I STILL LOVE HIM.

-SO SHE SAID.

WHO DO YOU THIN-

YOU HEARD HER, DIDN'T YOU?

SO YOU SHOULD THINK ABOUT GIVING UP ON HER ALREADY.

YA GUYS THINK I'M A FOOL, DON'T YOU?! WELL ALL I HAVE TO DO IS TELL O-

IF YOU WANT TO TELL OTHERS ABOUT OUR RELATION-SHIP, GO RIGHT AHEAD

Koutarou

DON'T TOUCH ME!

THE DAY I DECIDED TO START GOING OUT WITH HER.

I PREPARED MYSELF FOR ALL THAT SINCE

I'M NOT AFRAID.

Tch

outa-
rou

..ARE YOU SURE?

Ouch

MY OWN STUDENT CALLED ME A RETARD ..

FOOLS! THE WHOLE LOT OF YA! I'VE GOT BETTER THINGS TO BE DOING THAN HANGING OUT WITH 'TARDS LIKE YOU!

RATTLE

IN ME DOING
ANYTHING
ANYWHERE

IF YOU'RE
NOT THERE
BY MY SIDE.

Koutarou...

THANK YOU...

YEAH ...

Scrunch

IT'LL ALL FIGURE ITSELF OUT, ALL RIGHT? SO DON'T BREAK A SWEAT, ALL RIGHTY?

Slide

WILL YOU

I always did.

STAY BY MY SIDE FOREVER?

and I always will.

Koutarou

I'll put my faith in you

"Yeah!"
for me at the end.

STORY TWO

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RED-GREEN

SHUUEI HIGH SCHOOL

I HAVE A HEAVY BURDEN THAT I'M CARRYING WITH ME RIGHT NOW.

WHEN WILL I BE ABLE TO LET IT GO, I WONDER?

ANAPO

A BICYCLE YOU CAN'T EVEN RIDE IS JUST METAL SCRAPS.

Dashes off

HEY! YOU THERE!

IF YOU DON'T LOCK YOUR BIKE, SOMEONE MIGHT END UP STEALING IT!

I'M DOING IT ON PURPOSE, SO DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT.

"ON PUR-POSE"?

THAT'S WHAT I THOUGHT.

IF I CAN'T BE THE ONE TO LET IT GO, THEN HOPEFULLY SOMEONE WILL TAKE IT AWAY FOR ME...

THAT'S WHY I DECIDED TO LEAVE IT UNLOCKED.

2 - 3

HAHAHA-

'CAUSE LIKE, IF YOU THINK ABOUT IT, IT'S ALREADY BEEN TWO

IF SHE HAD THOUGH, SHE WOULDN'T TRY TO BRING SOMETHING LIKE THAT TO SCHOOL

AND ALL THAT'S LEFT IS THIS THING RIGHT HERE

IT GIVES ME SUPERPOWERS

TWO BICYCLES...

THAT ARE SUPPORTING EACH OTHER.

A RED ONE AND A GREEN ONE

IT'S AS IF....

IT'S AS IF THEY'RE A COUPLE LEANING AGAINST EACH OTHER, HUH?

YEAH AND NOT ONLY THAT, BUT THEY'RE CHRISTMAS COLORS, TOO.

HE'S THAT GUY FROM THIS MORNING...

EXCUSE ME?

DON'T YOU THINK?

CLICK

I'LL GIVE YOU ONE OF THESE,

LOCK

WHY DID HE...

SO YOU SHOULD MAKE SURE TO LOCK UP YOUR BIKE FROM NOW ON.

AND NOT ONLY THAT, BUT THEY'VE GOT MATCHING RINGS TOO!

WHAT'S WITH THIS GUY?

HERE.

I DON'T NEED IT

STOP RIGHT THERE!

"SUZUMOTO KUREKA-SAN WHO ALWAYS PUSHES HER BIKE TO SCHOOL FOR GOD KNOWS WHY."

WHY DON'T YOU ANYWAY?

IT'S JUST EXTRA BAGGAGE IF YOU DON'T ACTUALLY RIDE YOUR BIKE.

I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU ARE

BUT WOULD YOU MIND JUST LEAVING ME ALONE?

I DON'T NEED TO BE TOLD THAT

I KNOW THAT WE'RE TALKING ABOUT-

ONE

IT'S NOT THAT I "CAN'T"

IT'S JUST THAT I "CAN'T"

!

HE WAS A GUY WHO WENT TO A SCHOOL DIFFERENT FROM MINE, AND HE WAS THE FIRST GUY I EVER DATED.

HE WAS A KIND GUY WITH BROAD SHOULDERS

"HMM. MAYBE NEXT CHRISTMAS?"

"WHEN ARE YOU GOING TO BE ABLE TO RIDE A BIKE?"

BUT I FELL FOR SOMEONE ELSE

BUT

THE END CAME SUDDENLY

I'M REALLY SORRY

のり弁

☆はじめまして♪こんにちは!
字の汚さにうんざりしつつも
直す気配のない女こと、
大谷紀子です。
5冊目の単行本です。
漫画が3本入ってます。
そして1/4スペースはここ1本のみ
となっております。あしからず(泣)

ありがとうございます

☆2006年に入り、突然料理が
楽しくて仕方なくなりました。
ストレス発散法が「料理」
みたいな。何故だ?
以前まではめんどくさくて嫌な
部類第2位だったのに…。
(ちなみに1位は部屋の掃除)
ドレッシングも手作りして、色んな
ものにかけて食べてます。今の
ブームは納豆にフレンチドレッシング
をかけて食べることかな~。
(1日1パックは必ず食べてます)
揚げ物もするのですが、ちょっと
ビクビクです。なぜなら私は
台所で仕事をしているから…!
いつのまにかダイニングテーブルが
仕事机に…。原稿にニオイが
ついてないか、いささか心配です。
台所が一番広くて日当たりもいい
ので、当分この状況は変わり
そうにありません。

たそがれ金太郎。
(初めてマジメに描いた負債。)

IT WAS THE FIRST TIME I'D EVER FELT SUCH PAIN

AND THAT'S WHY I'M STILL HURTING

EVEN THOUGH IF I COULD, I WANT TO BE ABLE TO LEAVE IT ALL IN THE PAST...

'MORNING!

.....

tense

THE VERY NEXT DAY,

THIS MORON WAS BACK AT IT AGAIN.

Roger!

I'M KOBAYASHI YOSHITSUGU, AND I'M IN THE CLASS NEXT TO YOURS,

NICE TO MEET YA!

...I'M

paced off

paced off

I DON'T KNOW WHY, BUT WHEN I'M AROUND THIS GUY, I FEEL REALLY TIRED.

OH DID I? THAT WAS SO LONG AGO, I'D COMPLETELY FORGOTTEN.

YOU TREAT YESTERDAY LIKE IT WAS A CENTURY AGO?

You're funny

stalk-ish

I DON'T REMEMBER ASKING FOR THAT INFO.

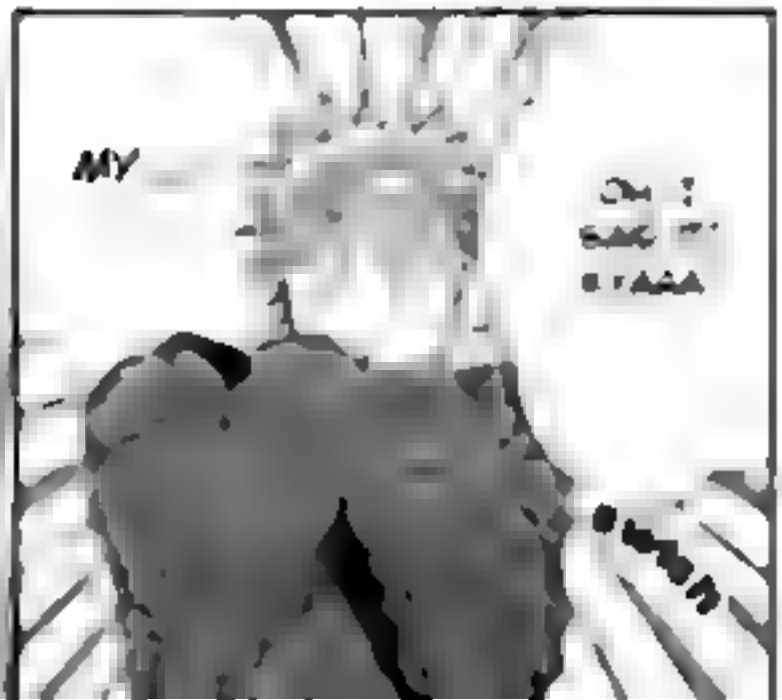
CLANK

WELL, IT'S CAUSE YOU MENTIONED YESTERDAY ABOUT HOW YOU DIDN'T KNOW WHO I WAS.

stalks off

Huh, you're pretty fast at walking.

What?!
TRAINING WHEELS...?!
Grab
!!


MY

AND IF YOU AT LEAST TRY, YOU MIGHT FIND YOURSELF IN A SLIGHTLY BIGGER WORLD THAN YOU ARE IN RIGHT NOW.

IF YOU CAN'T RIDE YOUR BIKE, ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS LEARN HOW.

dashes

I'LL BE WAITING FOR YOU AFTER CLASS!

WHAT MAKES YOU THINK I'D AGREE TO SOMETHING LIKE THAT?

SLAP

WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE?!

DON'T MAKE ME FEEL MORE IRRITATED THAN I ALREADY FEEL.

LOOK, KOBAYASHI-KUN'S TOTALLY STRIKING OUT.

HEY, THE CLASS NEXT TO US IS HAVING PE RIGHT NOW.

MORON.

"I'LL SHOW YOU WHAT LIES ONE STEP AHEAD"

wave!

wave

Heyyy!

!!!

HE'S PRETTY POPULAR, YOU KNOW?

IT'S LIKE, HE'S THE TYPE WHO PEOPLE CAN'T HELP BUT LIKE? HAHA, SOMETHING LIKE THAT...

Haha, my bad

Ya little

Hahaha retard

TURNS away

HE HARDLY EVEN KNOWS ME

I HAVE TO FIND A WAY TO GET HOME BEFORE HIM...

.....

HE SHOULDN'T GO AROUND SAYING STUFF LIKE THAT SO EASILY.

Yo it's your turn!

LOCKED DOWN

...or so she planned

. . . . . .

YO! SORRY TO KEEP YOU WAITING.

I don't get you, why are you bothering me like this?!

Nobody asked you to show me the "world that lies ahead" or whatever shit you were spouting---

HUH, I GET IT.

Will you just cut it out already?

WELL WHY DON'T WE GET CRACKIN'?

PULLS

-EXCUSE ME?

YOU'RE IN GRADE 11 AND YOU CAN'T EVEN RIDE A BIKE. HOW EMBARRASS-ING!!

H-HEYY...

!?

YOU'RE TRYING TO RUN AWAY.

HEY EVERYONE! THIS GIRL CAN'T RIDE A BIKE!

I-

looks in

blinks

HUH, IS THAT RIGHT?

turns away

OH SHOOT...

WELL THEN, WHY DON'T YOU SHOW OFF THOSE AMAZING RIDING SKILLS OF YOURS?

P-PRO BABLY

can so.

DEPRESSED

OTHERWISE, I'LL HAVE TO START CALLING YOU "LITTLE MISS LIAR"

I PRACTICALLY RAN INTO HIS TRAP!

FORGET ABOUT RUNNING AWAY...

.....

I NEVER KNEW A BICYCLE WAS THIS UN-STABLE!

WELL, IF RIDING A BIKE'S SUCH A CINCH FOR YA, LET 'ER RIPS!

SHOCKED

S-Shut up!

I-If you're

...supposed to be my training wheels, then hold onto the back!

...SCREW THAT

WOBBLE

WOBBLE

WOBBLE

clap

clap

HUH? BUT I HAVEN'T EVEN DONE ANYTHING YET.

THAT'S RIGHT! YOU'RE DOING GREAT! ♪

chuckle

HUH?

MAKE SURE TO HOLD ONTO THE HANDLES, GOT IT?

GRAB

DASHES

!?

HERE WE GO!

HUH? I CAN LET GO?

W What are you doing?! Let me go!

NOOOOO

NOOOOOO! Don't!!!!

HEY! DON'T LET YOUR FEET OFF THE PEDAL WHAT'RE YOU DOING?!

CLINK
CLINK
CLINK

CRASH

KYAA!

.....

A-ARE YOU OKAY...?

WHAT?! WITH THAT REACTION?!

...OH, THAT'S NOT MUCH.

Don't scare me like that

D–

Do I look like I'm okay?! I hurt my knee!

WHAT?! SERIOUSLY?!

A little bit

THIS MEANS THAT YOU LEARNED BY USING YOUR BODY.

...WHAT?

"WHENEVER YOU START LEARNING SOMETHING NEW, IT'S ACCOMPANIED BY SOME FORM OF RISK"

...BUT

!

IT HURTS WHEN YOU FALL

AS LONG AS YOU PATCH UP THE WOUND, IT'LL BE HEALED IN NO TIME.

PATCHES UP

!?

AHAHA HAHA

giggles

THAT'S WHAT-

I WAS JUST THINKING...

WHAT? DID I SAY SOMETHING WEIRD?

NO...

.....

YOU DIDN'T EVEN STOP TO DISINFECT IT BEFORE PUTTING THE BAND-AID ON...

OH, THEN HOW ABOUT I SPIT ON IT-

No! Don't! That'd make it even worse!

I DON'T KNOW WHY, BUT I FELT A LITTLE BETTER.

HE MADE ME THINK... THAT IF I LEARNED TO RIDE A BIKE,

MAYBE SOMETHING REALLY MIGHT CHANGE.

FROM 5 METERS

TO 10 METERS

AND 10 METERS

BECAME 20 METERS

AFTER THAT, LITTLE BY LITTLE, MY PROGRESS CAME TO LIFE

THANKS.

I SLOWLY TRANSFORMED INTO A "PRETTY GOOD GUY"

THE GUY I CONSIDERED TO BE JUST SOME "WEIRDO"

HERE. GREAT WORK TODAY.

I WANTED TO ASK YOU THIS BEFORE.

HMM?

...HEY.

BUT WHY ME?. I MEAN, WHY BOTHER YOURSELF WITH ME?

YOU DON'T REALLY GET ANYTHING OUT OF ME BEING ABLE TO RIDE A BIKE...

...BECAUSE, YOU'D CAUGHT MY EYE SINCE A WHILE BACK.

AND SO I THOUGHT, I'D REALLY LIKE TO SEE A REAL ONE FROM YOU, YOU KNOW?

AND ONCE I'D FIGURED THAT MYSTERY OUT, I REALIZED YOU NEVER SMILED... FOR REAL, I MEAN

I ALWAYS WONDERED WHY YOU'D PUSH YOUR BIKE TO SCHOOL.

I THOUGHT

HOW GREAT IT'D BE IF I COULD BE THE ONE TO MAKE YOU SMILE.

CLUNK

D-DON'T TELL ME YOU DON'T LIKE ME NOW?

NO, THAT'S NOT TRUE.

Shocked

HAHA, WELL TO YOU I MIGHT'VE JUST BEEN A NUISANCE, BUT YA KNOW...

HAHAHAHA

HAHA...

Swish

EVEN THOUGH I STILL NEED MY TRAINING WHEELS.

THANKS TO YOU, I'M ABLE TO RIDE THIS A LOT BETTER THAN I USED TO

?

WHY?

...

WELL THEN, LET'S SET THE GOAL FOR CHRISTMAS!

ALRIGHTY!

YAY!

AND THEN HE SAID "SO WE CAN RIDE OUR RED AND GREEN BICYCLES TOGETHER, NO DUH"!

Hahaha

I NEVER KNEW HE WAS SUCH A ROMANTIC.

OH, AND BEFORE, HE CALLED THE TWO LOCKS THAT HE PUT ON OUR BIKES "MATCHING RINGS"

They were like

.....

dumbstruck

O-OH...

Yeah

WHEN-

WHAT'S WRONG? YOU'VE BEEN PRETTY QUIET...

AH... SORRY,

IT'S JUST, I WAS A BIT SURPRISED TO SEE YOU SHOWING A REAL SMILE...

IS IT ALL THANKS TO HIM?

TODAY'S GOAL IS 50 METERS!

WAS IT THAT I BEGAN TO SMILE AGAIN?

turns away

AH.. YEAH, SURE

ba-dump

WHY DID I TURN AWAY FROM HIM?!

ba-dump

ba-dump

Hey

HEY, SUZUMOTO, THIS IS THE SECOND TIME THAT YOU TURNED AWAY FROM ME.

HUH?

BUT I DON'T FEEL BAD ABOUT THIS ONE.

Yes!

!

'CAUSE I FIGURED THE FIRST TIME YOU DID...YOU KNOW, BACK WHEN I WAS OUT DOING PE, THE MEANING OF THAT ONE WAS A LITTLE DIFFERENT.

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?

A GUY'S GOTTA HAVE SOME DREAMS, YOU KNOW?

I-IS...

THAT RIGHT...?

W-WELL...

WELL YEAH, I'D BE LYING IF I SAID I DIDN'T HAVE SOME HOPE.

MAYBE THAT'S JUST YOUR WISH-FUL THINK-ING?

HUH?

HOW SHOULD I FACE HIM TODAY?

AFTER THAT,

I WAS SO EMBARRASSED THAT I HAD A HARD TIME LOOKING HIM IN THE FACE

click

COULD IT BE THAT

I'VE FALLEN FOR...

BA-DUMP!

-I KNOW

THE PAIN OF FALLING DOWN.

I DON'T WANT TO BE HURT ANYMORE.

THAT'S WHY I'M SCARED.

...LIKE EVERYONE ELSE, I DON'T WANT TO GET HURT.

NAH...

HEY, AREN'T YOU GOING TO GO PRACTICE TODAY?

I DON'T WANT TO HAVE TO EXPERIENCE THE SAME PAIN TWICE...

I'M NOT GOING

"I'M THINKING ABOUT BECOMING YOUR TRAINING WHEELS"

I CAN'T GO.

"A GUY'S GOTTA HAVE SOME DREAMS, YOU KNOW?"

"I THOUGHT HOW GREAT IT'D BE IF I COULD BE THE ONE TO MAKE YOU SMILE."

THIS IS THE THIRD TIME YOU'VE LOOKED AWAY.

BECAUSE I CAN RIDE THE BICYCLE NOW.

...THEN WHY

I DON'T UNDERSTAND WHY.

WHY WON'T YOU COME TO PRACTICE?

ARE YOU CRYING?

I GUESS I'M NOT CAPABLE OF MAKING YOU SMILE, HUH?

YOU'VE ONLY JUST GOTTEN USED TO RIDING THE BIKE,

SO DON'T DO ANYTHING TOO RISKY, ALL RIGHT?

I SAW HIM

FORCING A SMILE FOR THE FIRST TIME

WELL, DON'T STAY OUT TOO LATE! SEE YA.

...AND WITH THAT

YOU'RE THE ONE WHO SAID YOU DIDN'T WANT TO GET HURT...

NO REGRETS, REMEMBER?

I TOLD HIM I DIDN'T NEED IT...

HAD TURNED INTO A SCAB

AND HEALED OVER BE-FORE I'D EVEN REALIZED IT.

!!!

FLIP

THE WOUND

IT'S JUST AS YOU SAID.

Clank

"AS LONG AS YOU PATCH UP THE WOUND, IT'LL BE HEALED IN NO TIME."

"I'LL SHOW YOU WHAT LIES AHEAD"

I DON'T CARE WHAT LIES AHEAD

AS LONG

AS YOU'RE THERE-TO SEE IT WITH ME.

KOBAYASHI ...

A FORCED SMILE DOESN'T SUIT

Kobayashi!!

-YOU,

SUZUMOTO?

Squeal

HEY!

OR ME.

How do I stop this thing?!

WHA?

FU

CRASH

...I

...BUT I WAS WRONG TO THINK THAT

I GOT SCARED

WHEN I THOUGHT ABOUT WHAT MIGHT HAPPEN IF IT DIDN'T WORK OUT BETWEEN US...

I SAW MY EX-BOYFRIEND ON THE STREET THE OTHER DAY,

AND I STARTED THINKING OF YOU.

I...

WANT TO BE WITH YOU.

BECAUSE THERE'S NO WAY THERE CAN EVER BE AN END TO SOMETHING THAT HAS NEVER EVEN STARTED!

WILL YOU STAY BY MY SIDE?

chuckles

OF COURSE I WILL!

squeeze

...AFTER THAT, MY BIKE GOT TAKEN INTO THE REPAIR SHOP TO FIX IT UP

...AH!

SO FOR TODAY, THIS WILL BE MY SPECIAL SEAT.

WHAT IS IT?

OH, IT'S NOTHING.

WHEN I LOOKED DOWN, OUR SHADOWS

LOOKED A BIT SIMILAR

Hey, it's not good to keep secrets!

TO THE SHAPE OF OUR RED AND GREEN BICYCLES LEANING AGAINST EACH OTHER

《THE END》

Yaoi Shoujo Scans

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Story 3